

APPLICANT(S): VOLOKH, Vladimir

SERIAL NO.: 09/273,468

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please add or amend the claims to read as follows, and cancel without prejudice or disclaimer to resubmission in a divisional or continuation application claims indicated as cancelled:

1-10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently amended) A rotary multi-tooth milling cutter with at least one tooth including a lateral cutting edge which rotates about a central cutter axis and cuts generally parallel thereto, the tooth further including a tooth face between the cutting edge and the central cutter axis, the tooth face comprising:

at least first and second sections between the cutting edge and the central cutter axis, said first section being nearest to the cutting edge and being convex,

wherein said lateral cutting edge comprises a pointed cutting edge oriented to cut in a cutting direction along a circular cutting path centered at said central cutting axis, and wherein said cutting edge is oriented to define a non-zero relief angle opposite said cutting direction between said cutting tool and said cutting path.

12. (previously presented) The milling cutter as claimed in claim 11, wherein the length of the first section on the tooth face is 20% or less than the length of the tooth face between the cutting edge and central cutter axis.

13. (previously presented) The milling cutter as claimed in claim 11, wherein the first section blends tangentially into the second section.

14. (previously presented) The milling cutter as claimed in claim 11, further including a concave chip-breaking section located between the first and second sections of the tooth face.

15. (previously presented) The milling cutter as claimed in claim 11, wherein the first section is smaller in length than the second section.

16. (Currently amended) A rotary multi-tooth milling cutter with at least one tooth including a lateral cutting edge which rotates about a central cutter axis, the lateral cutting edge extending along the length of the central cutter axis and cuts generally parallel to the central axis, the tooth face comprising:

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at least first and second sections between the cutting edge and central cutter axis, said first section being nearest to the cutting edge and being convex,

wherein said lateral cutting edge comprises a pointed cutting edge oriented to cut in a cutting direction along a circular cutting path centered at said central cutting axis, and wherein said cutting edge is oriented to define a non-zero relief angle opposite said cutting direction between said cutting tool and said cutting path.

17. (Previously presented) The milling cutter as claimed in claim 16, wherein the length of the first section on the tooth face is 20% or less than the length of the tooth face between the cutting edge and central cutter axis.

18. (Previously presented) The milling cutter as claimed in claim 16, wherein the first section blends tangentially into the second section.

19. (Previously presented) The milling cutter as claimed in claim 16, further including a concave chip-breaking section located between the first and second sections of the tooth face.

20. (Previously presented) The milling cutter as claimed in claim 16, wherein the first section is smaller in length than the second section.

21. (Previously presented) The milling cutter as claimed in claim 11, wherein said second section is concave.

22. (Previously presented) The milling cutter as claimed in claim 16, wherein said second section is concave.

23. (Canceled).

24. (Canceled).